

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

THE PACIFIC

t Year

SEPTEMBER 1921

No. 9

THE LIFE EVERLASTING.

not meet us where the shadows fall
e the sea that bounds the Evening Land;
not greet us with its first clear call
o death has borne us to the farther strand.

ot something yet to be revealed—
Everlasting Life; 'tis here and now,
g unseen because our eyes are sealed
blindness for the pride upon our brow.

ls not in innumerable years;
the breath of God in timeless things—
rong divine persistence that inheres
ve's red pulses and in faith's white wings.

we feel it not among our strife
ll our toiling and in all our pain—
hythmic pulsing of immortal life—
do we work and suffer here in vain.

PEOPLES CONFERENCE AT LONG BEACH.

cond Young Peoples Conference was held at
Beach from July 25th to 31st under the direc-
f the Religious Education Committee of the
ence and Miss Sarah E. Bundy who is the
or of Religious Education for Southern Cali-

A very strong program was carried out,
om start to finish the Conference was a de-
success, not only in attendance and esprit de
but also in quality of work done.

conferences go, it was unique, for no other
n in the country has opened its doors with
ine hospitality to delegates from all over the
part of the State. They came from 33 local
es and from 4 outside of the Conference
for a six-day session; 139 young people
present the whole time, while the total regis-
a rose to 202. The girls were housed dormi-
ashion in the basement of the church, and the
n the tower room.

program arranged for serious study during
orning hours beginning with 8:30 and running
noon-time. The recreation hours from 2:30
0 were as carefully provided for as any other
of the program; the evening was devoted to

matters of more general interest to which the pub-
lic was admitted.

One morning hour was given to a consideration
of Christian Fundamentals; another to Open
Forums led by Roy H. Campbell and John B. Too-
may; and another hour for Mission Study Classes.
There were about a score of pastors and leaders
who belonged to the faculty of the Conference,—as
fine an array of talent as any college in our land
could show. It is no wonder that the young people
have decided that the Summer Conference has come
to stay. Already plans are making for the third
conference to be held next Summer.

Financially the Conference came out very well;
the Southern Conference generously underwrote the
expenses, but that pledge will not need to be capital-
ized, for the registration fees met all expenses and
have left a comfortable balance on the right side.
The rate charged was \$2.50 for the general regis-
tration, and \$7.50 for meals and board during the
Conference. Meals for the whole company were
furnished in the Elks' Hall nearby, which was
generously donated by that Order.

It would be impossible to speak of all the good
service that was rendered during those six days,
but the high tide seemed to be reached in connec-
tion with the address of Frank C. Laubach, Ameri-
can Board Missionary to the Philippines. The deep
interest of the young people was evidenced by their
crowding about him immediately after his address,
expressing their awakened enthusiasm for mission-
ary service, and inquiring as to further necessary
training.

WOULD HE MAKE A GOOD CITIZEN?

Mr. George Shima, the so-called Japanese "Potato
King" and his family have long been members of
the Methodist Church. During the war he purchased
\$180,000 worth of Liberty Bonds, he gave liberally
to the Red Cross and other war charities, recently
he donated \$40,000 toward a fund to erect at Stock-
ton a memorial to the sons of San Joaquin County
who gave their lives in the late war. He has said
that the one thing he most desires is to become an
American citizen.

Tolson, T. T.
31 Dec 1919
133 Shasta st

Religion

THE PACIFIC

Established 1851.

Entered as Second-Class Matter at the San Francisco Post Office.

E. CLARENCE OAKLEY, Editor.

One Dollar a year - 10 Cents per copy

Publication Committee: Francis J. Van Horn, chairman
Rowland B. Dodge, secretary; Peter A. Simpkin

Published monthly by the Northern California Congregational Conference. Office, 423 Phelan Building, San Francisco.

Make all checks payable to "The Pacific." All matter for publication should be in the office by the 20th of the month.

Club Rates: The Pacific and Congregationalist, \$3.50 per year, old or new subscriptions.

Special Offer: The Pacific and Missionary Review of the World for \$3.00 per year.

SEEKING FOR GOD.

I said, 'I will find God,' and forth I went
To seek Him in the clearness of the sky,
But over me stood unendurably
Only a pitiless, sapphire firmament
Ringing the world, blank splendor; yet intent
Still to find God, 'I will so seek,' said I,
'His way upon the waters,' and drew nigh
An ocean marge, weed-strewn and foam besprent;
And the waves dashed on idle sand and stone,
And very vacant was the long, blue sea;
But in the evening as I sat alone,
My window open to the vanishing day,
Dear God! I could not choose but kneel and pray
And it sufficed that I was found of Thee.

ELUCIDATING LUCIDITY.

The other morning the San Francisco Journal (an excellent paper by the way) devoted five-eighths of a page to reporting a "Christian Science" lecture by one G. S. Cook. We rather suspect it was advertising matter, though there was no mark indicating that. If it were propaganda, that was surely an "error" in a newspaper struggling to gain a large subscription list among intelligent people.

The opening words of the lecture were these, seeking to find a common basis of belief with his audience:—in spite of a great variety of opinions held by them, he said, "We are all agreed that we exist. Every one present admits without argument the fact of his conscious existence."

That sounded very wise and conciliating; but we wonder what evidence there was of their existence which did not also go to prove that they had hands and feet and ears, in fact that physically as well as spiritually they were there. And what sort and degree of evidence had they of that "fact that was conceded without argument" that they do not have when they are sick or their house is on fire or a thousand and one other things that these "Chris-

tian Science" people "deny" because it is not agreeable to believe them.

We would not make fun of any man's religion, however much we may debate his philosophy therapeutics. If the people who sit spellbound under the sophistry of these polished orators would only use their thinkers assiduously during the lecture, there would not be so many misguided notions. It is a good maxim never to accept muddied thinking as deep thinking. One should never allow himself to be befuddled by denseness, no matter how skillful the operator is. Think clearly; think clearly.

SAN FRANCISCO IMPROVING.

The big city on the Bay would better be careful lest it become 'puritanical'. There is a sinister drift that way, if the Police Department can be believed. Evidently the Eighteenth Amendment is to blame for the improvement.

According to the annual report of the Police Department there has been a tremendous falling off in arrests since Prohibition has been put into the Constitution of the United States. During the years 1918-1919, the last 'wet' year there were 49,647 arrests in the city; the next year when the Eighteenth Amendment had been in force less than 6 months the arrests fell to 36,673, a shrinkage of 27%. The next full 'dry' year showed only 30,106 arrests, a decrease of 43%.

Now no one for a moment thinks that Prohibition has been adequately observed in this City by the Police Department; yet she is reaping some of the benefits of National Prohibition. If only the State will stand forward like a man and stand by the Constitution, even better results will follow.

The Police Department reports show that from 1878 up to the first 'dry' year there had been a steady and threatening increase of arrests; and in January 1920 a happy and comforting decrease, this in spite of the fact that the number of unemployed has been on the gain as a post-war result.

The social, economic and moral values of the shrinkage in arrests ought to silence all voices raised against the 'dry' campaign. We expect that those who profit by bootlegging to be vociferous on the wrong side; but those who love San Francisco, California, and desire the welfare of humanity should stand four-square for Prohibition.

THIS YEAR, IF EVER.

Congregational ministers between forty-five and sixty-five years of age can get in on the Annual Fund on the "Original Plan" only during the year 1921. This will give to each member a \$500 per year pension, upon maturity, and will give to his wife \$300; and these pensions are for the remainder of their lives. It is five-times as good as can be obtained from any insurance company.

The "Original Plan", which is the best plan for men in the latter part of life, will be withdrawn

ber 31, 1921. If you have not entered upon plan, do it now. If you know of a minister who has not, use your utmost influence to get him to do it now. Next year there will be ministers a-bemoaning the fact that they failed to do it.

A TREASONABLE ORGANIZATION.

There is no excuse for the KuKlux Klan. It is a secret organization, secret as to its membership, secret as to its propaganda, and secret as to its designs. It is a menace to all free people. Wherever a man's life or liberty may secretly or unlawfully be invaded, all men are in danger.

The Klan is organized on religious prejudice, secretly anti-Roman Catholic; it is organized on race prejudice, being avowedly against the Jew. It is openly against the orderly processes of the law, being pledged to punish unconvicted persons whom it does not like. The American people could do well to outlaw this "outlaw" organization.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT YUCAIPA, CALIFORNIA.

Located in the foothills of the great San Bernardino range of mountains, what more reasonable place for the Church to capitalize its good location by holding Sunday morning services occasionally in the Summer by the streams and under the big oaks of God's first temples? Twice now we have enjoyed the hospitality of Nature and shall go again. During informally in some beautiful spot we will pray and commune together and with God are lifted up and strengthened. The wanderings of the season are guided into a use of the day that satisfies both the conscience and the desire to be out in the open. Large numbers of people come together both for the ample family dinner and for the bread of life as well. Then they return to the evening meeting of the young people with a deepened feeling of gratitude to that Church which has been faithful of their whole need; and to the general community with a deepened respect for its value in the community.

Like most Churches, the Summer time does not leave the Church to one side. In this orchard country, while many for brief periods go elsewhere for vacation, most of the folk are here at the same time. Consequently all organizations maintain active programs. Particularly is this true of the Pilgrim Society of Young People. Their Sunday-evening meetings are larger than formerly. Usually they plan the good times that young folks like. One week they put on a play and entertainment with which they obtained funds to send a delegation of their number to the Young People's Conference in Long Beach. Often they have some kind of party. One afternoon, the young men came to the church premises with hoe and rake as an im-

provement society, while the young ladies served an appetizing lunch. At Fourth of July and Labor Day, they spend the three days as a body in the mountains. The center of their lives almost seems to be the Sunday hour when at 6 o'clock they habitually lunch together, then have a devotional service, and almost as a unit attend the general service. Few Churches possess a group of young people so happy together, and with such potencies being developed for Christian service. Also they are transforming the Bible School, already making two new high school classes, and about ready to form an older group.

Thus here, the Summer is not the proverbial long empty vacation but rather the fourth semester or quarter. A little less push indeed, but coming together, because they want to be there, and with sufficient vitality to present to the Church a splendid class for admission to membership at the Autumn Communion.—C. F.

THE EDITOR WOULD LIKE TO ASK.

Is your subscription in arrears? You can easily tell by looking at the little sticker on your paper. It would relieve the overburdened dispenser of news if he did not have to send out any statements of account; and that happy condition would come about if everybody paid up promptly according to the "sticker."

Has your church been represented in our news column within this year? Of course things are happening worth telling; but the dispenser of news has lost his little bird that tells him everything. So it is up to the readers to tell him. Let him have every cheery item that will rejoice the churches to know.

VOTED AT BAKERSFIELD.

The Southern California Congregational Conference at their meeting in Bakersfield, May, 1921, passed the following vote upon advice of their Committee on Resolutions:

"We recommend the Pacific to our constituency and urge that our pastors seek to secure subscriptions in their churches either for the Pacific alone or in conjunction with the Congregationalist under the established clubbing offer.

"We believe that such an organ of news, which may also with our support become a fitting forum for the expression of opinion on matters vital to the denomination and the commonwealth, should be heartily supported by California Congregationalists."

I wonder if religion is really just vague submission and sweet emotion, instead of the splendid, stern, conquering thing that Jesus showed it to be. We want a Christianity that goes past sacrifice to victory, that does not quit business at Good Friday but goes on to Easter.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES.

San Francisco, First.

During the two months' vacation of Pastor James L. Gordon, the great London preacher, Reginald J. Campbell, filled the pulpit, and pretty near filled the church.

The first Sunday or two saw a falling off in attendance, but the congregations rallied the longer he was here, until the last Sunday revealed a full house. Dr. Gordon made a real contribution to this community when he secured this notable London preacher as pulpit supply. The first Sunday of the pastor's return must have been very gratifying; both audiences were immense; in the evening the church was full, standing room at a premium, and several hundred turned away for lack of room. His message was equal to his opportunity, straight from the shoulder, clear and definite, and with a deep Christian appeal at the heart of it. Whatever Dr. Gordon does to win an audience, he is never afraid of it after he gets it.

Oakland, First.

The church has had the privilege of hearing some of the National Council men. Percival Huget of Brooklyn—the poetical preacher—was one; and Glenn Atkins of Detroit, the preacher of the Council sermon, was another. Dr. Huget is pastor of the Tompkins avenue church which has nearly four thousand members, the largest Congregational church in America. One of his assistants is E. E. Youtz, who was formerly pastor of the Pilgrim church, Oakland. The Moderator of the Council preached in the "Old First" on July 24th. Pastor Van Horn occupied his own pulpit after vacation on August 7th, preaching an out-door sermon on "Home from the Hills." His fine coat of tan gave proof that he had spent his well-won leisure in the Open. The assistant pastor, Fred W. Morrison, supplied the First of San Diego during August.

Whittier, Plymouth.

Rev. Ernest E. Day, pastor. Since our last report from this church many things of importance have been happening. One was participation in a great union picnic at the close of the school year; another the baptism of five little ones in connection with the Children's Day exercises; another was the presentation of a beautiful pageant entitled "The Light of Christ in the Life of America." This took a Sunday evening session, and contained among other things, Columbia, and Education and Religion and Immigrants; with a plea for unredeemed communities, for the down-trodden, and for oppressed children. The pastor had the pleasure of receiving 15 new members into the church just before going on his vacation, one man of 80 years making his first public confession of Jesus. The Daily Vacation Bible school this summer had an enrollment of 293, with an average attendance of

198. Rev. Cass Arthur Reed and wife, representatives of this church in Smyrna, Asia Minor, have been present with the church and participated its work during the summer months.

Etna Mills.

Charles H. Dains, pastor. The little church proud of the heroism of some of its boy scouts. Had it not been for their self-possession and courage a fellow scout would have lost his life drowning. As it was two of the helpers nearly lost their own lives in the effort at rescue, and was only by the coolness and heroic service of another companion that all lives were saved. The training of these scouts, and especially their habit of self-discipline are a real asset in the emergencies of daily life.

San Francisco Mission.

During the summer months Rev. Godfrey Matthews of the First Church, Ogden, Utah, has been preaching with great acceptance. One feature which he has introduced, is the telling of a story chapter by chapter to the Sunday school children. This resulted one Sunday morning in the attendance of about 100 of the young people at the morning church service. This is his method of bridging the gap so common between the Sunday school and church service. Mr. Matthews addressed the Mission day club on August 15th.

Ferndale.

The Senior and Junior Ladies' Aid Societies added some new furniture and other conveniences to their parsonage in anticipation of the coming of their new pastor, Rev. Jessie Getty Heath. Upon his arrival there was a reception and a High school class party.

Petaluma.

During the summer months the Presbyterian and Congregational churches have combined all their church services, and the plan has worked out to the satisfaction of both pastors. Rev. C. E. Robinson, after attending the National Council, also attended the Presbyterian Synod meeting in Berkeley and on the following Sabbath preached to the union meeting on "The heart-beats of two great Churches," summarizing the spirit and delibations of the two great gatherings.

Crockett.

A unique and attractive gathering of the friends of the church after their vacations was arranged by the Rev. W. J. Speers, who is supplying the pulpit until the coming of a new pastor. The auditorium of the church was filled on Tuesday evening to listen to a very fine concert rendered by Jeanne E. Chapman of Seattle, violinist, Miss Jenks of Berkeley, celloist, Mrs. Russell R. R. R. of Oakland, pianiste, and Rev. R. R. Ruklaritone. Mr. Speers added to the pleasure of

ning by showing his pictures of Yosemite Valley, accompanied with a description of that "wonder spot" of California. The Sunday school class of Miss Melba Staehle also assisted with songs. The church gave a dinner in honor of the visiting musicians. A generous gift was made to the benefices of the church by the gratified audience.

FEDERATED SCHOOL OF MISSIONS.

The teacher of the daily text books this year is the Congregational field worker, Miss Frances Carter Patterson of both China and Japan.

One good Congregationalist whose face we missed is Mrs. F. B. Perkins, long a member of the interdenominational committee. From her sick bed she sent a message of greeting to which the School of Missions responded with a word of sympathy.

Prof. Rugh of the University of California gave a study of the Gospel of John. The sermons on Sundays were preached by Harvey H. Guy, for fourteen years missionary to Japan. He also lectured on "Berberia and Japan," having visited Vladivostock in 1898.

Francis Larkin, of the California Advocate lectured on "Journalism and Christian Propaganda." He cited Chester Rowell's suppression of gambling through the Fresno Republican. He also stated that there were 72 Roman Catholic newspapers in the United States. At a recent Catholic gathering it was proposed to raise a million dollars for newspaper publicity.

The paid registrations of the school were 128.

M. E. B.

BRINGING UP CHILDREN.

Luther Allan Weigle is the Horace Bushnell Professor of Christian Nurture in Yale University. He is coming to be a rarely useful man for the Sunday school worker. But the Sunday school teacher is the only person who would wisely study his writings.

We had occasion some time ago to review his "Training the devotional life," and commended it alone to the Sunday school teacher but to all who had any contact with children.

This book we now have in hand, "Talks to Sunday School Teachers," will prove as valuable to fathers and mothers as any volume we have recently come across. Many of the problems and perplexities of the home life, as related especially to the little ones, will here find wise advice and a reasonable solution.

One has only to run over the chapter headings to discover the wealth of material here for those whose business it is to deal with children. Take for instance these:—"A bundle of instincts", "A child's loyalty", "The age of hero worship", "When a boy wants to go to work."

There are twenty-four chapters in the book of

188 pages. The first half of the book, from which the foregoing five titles have been cited, are given over to an illuminating and revealing study of the child; while the latter half of the book is devoted to the teacher,—“Why a trained teacher?”; “The teaching process”; “The teachers knowledge of the lesson”; “How to excite interest”; and “The purposes of questioning.”

The book has been written largely with the Sunday school in view. The author however says in his preface, that the volume is issued “in the hope that parents and teachers may be helped by these talks to gain further insight into the psychology of boys and girls and a better understanding of some of the pedagogical problems involved in their religious education.” The title is such that parents, who really need most help in their responsible position, may not recognize the real value of this book for their special service in the home.

Few parents but have been puzzled and troubled by the lies their children tell. It sometimes seems to them that the Bible ought rather to have said—“All children are liars.” What a comfort will Prof. Weigle prove to be if these fathers and mothers can only be persuaded to read the chapter upon “Children's lies.” “Sincerity is natural,” says he,” both for children and for grown-ups who have not been spoiled. But no human instinct prevents error, or prompts one without fail to tell the truth. The difference between fact and not-fact has to be learned; the ideal and the habit of truth-telling are acquired in the course of experience, through education and training.”

TALKS TO SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS, by Luther Allan Weigle, Horace Bushnell Professor of Christian Nurture in Yale University. Third edition. pp 188. George H. Doran Company, New York.

TWO FINE OPPORTUNITIES.

The Pacific School of Religion is freely offering courses for ministers who are college or seminary graduates on Tuesday afternoons during the first semester, August 16-December 9. At 2 o'clock Prof. J. W. Buckham will conduct a graduate seminar entitled “Present-Day Religious Tendencies” in which will be discussed present-day movements in philosophy, science and theology as related to the Christian faith.

At 3 o'clock Prof. C. C. McCown, who has recently returned from a year with the American Oriental Society in Jerusalem, will deliver public lectures, largely illustrated, followed at 4 o'clock by a seminar open to ministers and graduate students. The course is entitled “Palestine and its Peoples” in which will be discussed the progress and results of archaeological investigations in Palestine; the geography of Palestine in its physical, economic, and political aspects; life in Palestine in ancient and modern times; and application to the interpretation of the New Testament.

WAYSIDE NOTES.

Rev. Charles Leon Mears, for so many years a California pastor, spent his Summer vacation on Lake-of-the-Woods, Canada, with Rev. George Laughton, another Californian. Mr. Mears is pastor now in Minneapolis and Mr. Laughton in Winnipeg. The former writes that he preached one Sunday in the Winnipeg pulpit to one thousand people in the morning and to fifteen hundred in the evening. **Evidently our friend Laughton is not only "filling the bill" but also the house in that important Canadian city.**

Andrew M. Bahnsen who has been in business for awhile in San Rafael, always desirous of returning to the active ministry has been called to the Sunset Church in San Francisco and is already at work. He is winning his way with the people and has reorganized the young peoples work for greater efficiency.

Arthur S. Ford is a new student in the Pacific School of Religion. The Oceanview Church of San Francisco is to be cared for during the year by Mr. and Mrs. Ford who are now living in the parsonage next to the church.

Let no one forget that the next annual meeting of the Northern California Conference is to be held at Asilomar again this year in accordance with a practically unanimous vote of the last Conference. The meeting will be from October 13th to 18th. Those who go this year will probably find the climate milder and more attractive than it was last September.

Rev. W. J. Speers who has relinquished his work with the Sunset Church of this city is now engaged as a General Missionary by the trustees of the Home Missionary Society. He has been holding the fort at Crockett until a pastor can be found for that important field.

Mr. Speers has a number of very fine pictures illustrating travelogues upon England, Canada and California, which he is willing to give to any church so desiring on condition that a freewill offering is taken to be devoted to work in California through the Congregational Headquarters. He says he has one of the best lanterns that money can buy, and those who have seen his pictures say they are works of art.

Plans are already in progress for the calling of another Pastor's Conference at the Pacific School of Religion this Fall, on lines similar to the Conference or "Retreat" held some time ago. The hope is that this meeting can be held between the meeting of the Northern Congregational Conference and Thanksgiving day. Pastors and churches will have full information in time.

The Religious Education Committee of the Kansas Congregational Conference reports that

while only one-third of the population of the State is in the churches, over three-fourths of the State University students are members of churches. These are interesting figures.

Rev. T. M. Lineweaver who has been so successful a pastor at Paso Robles has resigned the pastorate to take a year of study at Chicago. For the winter he will be found at 5757 University Avenue.

Rev. H. F. Hartshorn has resigned his pastorate at Perris to become principal of the high school there, he having received his M. A. degree from Pomona College this year.

Having for four years held the pastorate at Ramona, Rev. G. M. Morrison has resigned to return to a point nearer Los Angeles. On July 1st he began work at Sherman, an industrial community made up chiefly of employees of the Pacific Electric Company, whose car barns are located at that point.

Rev. Arthur Metcalf, of Webster City, Ia., began his pastorate of Logan Heights, San Diego, July 1st. Mr. Metcalf is a newcomer to California whose record in the Middle West promises well for the San Diego parish.

The sixth Japanese Congregational Church in California was organized awhile ago in Riverside and on June 27th the church was recognized by its council, the moderator of which was Secretary H. H. H. man. At the same time the pastor, Hisao Shimizu, was ordained to the Congregational ministry. The sermon was preached by Secretary G. L. Cady of the American Missionary Association, and the charge to the church was given by a local Japanese minister.

The Disciples of Los Angeles make a report that they are putting into fifty new church buildings about \$4,000,000.

Harry Kingman, son of the late Dr. Kingman of the Claremont Church goes to Japan to work in the Y. M. C. A. of that land.

Rev. E. Alonzo King preached a strong sermon at the First Church San Jose on the "Abundant Life" it afterwards appeared in the Mercury-Herald of that city.

The pastor at Mill Valley has resigned to take effect on Sept. 30th, after more than eight years of service.

The Bay Association will meet on Tuesday, September 27th with the Calvary Church, Oakland. Susan Luman H. Royce of the National Home Missionary Society will be present; and the meeting will be given largely to a consideration of the work in the cities about the bay. Charts are already preparing for better illustration of the needs and opportunities.

The Berkeley First Church has issued a very hearty call to Rev. Oscar Maurer of the Central

arch, New Haven, Conn., to become its pastor, successor to Raymond C. Brooks, at a salary of \$1000 and moving expenses.

PAUL'S COMPANIONS.

Even to one quite familiar with the New Testament, the facts brought out in this book concerning some fourteen or fifteen different persons who were associated in one way or another with Paul seem rather new, and presented as they are are both fresh and interesting.

Take for instance Barnabas, whom the author calls "A good man." Who at first thought would be that there are at least eight distinct accounts of this man, so full and informing as to make it possible to write as many brief chapters upon his life. Dr. Burrell discusses this man under these chapter headings: A Communist; A Gentleman; An Evangelist; A Missionary; A Pacificist; A Vaccinator; A Good Man.

In commenting upon Paul's vision at Troas, of a man beckoning him across the Hellespont to come over to Macedonia and help, he recalls the epic heroes who also sailed from Troas—Ulysses and Aeneas; "but the Aeneid and the Odyssey sink into insignificance when compared with the adventures of these men"—Paul, and Silas and Timothy. They went in search of the Man of Macedonia who beckoned; and they found it was a young man, Lydia, the purple-seller—the "forerunner of all Christian converts on the continent of Europe."

An instructive, readable, worth while book. "Paul's Companions"; by David James Burrell. New York, 1916. The American Tract Society, New York City.

THE MISSION OF A NEWSPAPER.

Mr. C. P. Scott has been the editor of the Manchester Guardian (England) for fifty years. The review of Reviews in reporting that fact quotes in the retiring editor's message these pertinent words, which would make good reading for some of the managers of our city papers:

Character is a subtle affair, and has many shades of sides to it. It is not a thing to be much talked about, but rather to be felt. It is the slow deposit of past actions and ideals. It is for each man his most precious possession, and so it is for that latest of time the newspaper. Fundamentally it lies honesty, cleanness, courage, fairness, a sense of duty to the reader and the community.

A newspaper is something of a monopoly. Its primary office is the gathering of news. At the heart of its soul it must see that the supply is not cut. Neither in what it gives, nor in what it does not give, nor in the mode of presentation must the unclouded face of truth suffer wrong. Com-

ment is free, but facts are sacred. 'Propaganda,' so called, by this means is hateful.

The voice of opponents no less than friends has a right to be heard. Comment also is justly subject to a self-imposed restraint. It is well to be frank; it is even better to be fair. This is an ideal. Achievement in such matters is hardly given to man. Perhaps none of us can attain to it in the desirable measure. We can but try, ask pardon for shortcomings, and there leave the matter."

A TRIBUTE.

A noble Christian woman passed into the higher life on Sunday morning, August 7. The translation of Mrs. Laura B. Perkins left sorrow in the hearts not only of her devoted daughters, but also of a host of friends in the California churches. For twelve years she was president of the Woman's Home Missionary Union of Northern California, and for the past six years she was corresponding secretary for the Union and for the Northern California Branch of the Woman's Board of the Pacific. These years of extended service endeared her to all who knew her or corresponded with her. No Christian work could be more heartfelt and unrestrained, more efficient and acceptable than was hers.

Mrs. Perkins has left her friends a rich and radiant memory not only of service, but also of beautiful Christian womanhood. To what she was as a Christian woman it is a privilege to bear tribute. She cultivated her soul's garden. Dr. R. J. Campbell said recently in public prayer, "Here we come, away from the noise of the world and the care of our own souls." It is a blessedness of spiritual public worship that it grants us the relief of an hour filled with the help we need in self-culture. But "the care of our own souls" is our vigilant duty if we would achieve Christian character. And Christian character like that of Mrs. Perkins is an achievement. One does not drift far toward Christ and perfection; the currents are too complex and baffling. She cared for her soul, she strove and prayed, and she achieved that highly wrought personality which was so loved and trusted.

But not alone did she do it. She lived deeply in God. She knew where her strength lay. She might have made her own the lines of Mr. Hosmer's beautiful poem:

"One thought I have, my ample creed,
So deep it is and broad,
And equal to my every need;
It is the thought of God."

And to her God was in Christ and her life was hid with Christ in Him. Often through the weary days of her last illness she repeated, "But back of it all is the dear Lord." He was her refuge, her unfailing fountain of life, the joy and strength of her heart. No wonder she attained a character "at leisure from

itself, to soothe and sympathize," so ready for "the great adventure."

Into the most inwrought life of a Christian home others may enter only as invited. The beauty of Mrs. Perkins' family joys was disclosed to many of us. As she lay ill and expectant, she kept thinking of Mr. Perkins' approaching birthday, observed lovingly through the years of his absence. We may wonder how constant the memory is in the "land of pure delight." Absorbed in the larger interests here on earth, we sometimes overlook our own birthdays. It may well be that in the grander growths and farther flights of heaven they need to be reminded now and then of dear details of earth. How beautiful that on the morning of her husband's birthday Mrs. Perkins awoke to be herself his gift and his reminder.

—C. S. N.

WILL C. BEACH.

The Congregational Church at Sunnyvale has met a great loss in one of its most energetic members, Mr. Will C. Beach. He was among the first group of eastern settlers in Sunnyvale when the town was laid out in 1902.

He organized the first Sunday school, and was its superintendent till the Union school was changed into a Congregational church, after which he continued for over fifteen years in the same office.

He was one of the charter members of the Sunnyvale Congregational Church and was a most active Christian worker up to the time of his death. The State Conference knew him as one of the faithful laymen who always attended its meetings and took an active interest in its affairs.

He leaves a wife and an adopted daughter, Mrs. Abel, both of Sunnyvale. The church and entire community feel keenly his death as a distinct loss.

A REFORM MUCH NEEDED.

It is the weakness of the National Council that every man wants to have his say about every matter that is presented for vote, before he votes. We have not learned the common sense method of procedure—appoint a committee big enough and wise enough to trust, and then trust it. There are too many committees of one; and they are about as wise as one man by himself usually is.

The Council should not devote four-fifths of its time to voting and debating before voting. A great opportunity for the discussion of vital and big questions of religion and ethics is thrown away for the sake of business that ought to be left to the judgment of committees. We hope the day will come when the Council will be as inspirational and instructive along constructive lines of thought as it used to be before it became a debating and voting machine.

Our annual gatherings have been occasions of great power; but lately we are falling into the

error of becoming as spiritually impotent as the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. We have fallen from grace. It is up to the ordinary individual member of the Council to see that we get back again on the former high level.

BOUND FOR JAPAN.

The Monday Club participated in an illuminating conversation with Rev. Jerome C. Holmes who is on his way back to Japan, after a year's furlough. He has seen seven years of service in that land and is now head of the Language School at Tokyo. He answered questions very freely and threw a good deal of light upon perplexing problems between the country and that.

At the Ramona that same day a group of about forty Congregational friends participated in a luncheon given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Holmes and her mother Mrs. Edwards; Mr. and Mrs. Woodard; Mr. and Mrs. Gillette; William Clarke and Leeds Gulick, son of Sidney Gulick, all bound for Japan.

MONDAY CLUB MEETINGS.

Sept. 5th. No meeting.

Sept. 12th. At First of San Francisco; Prof. Bade, Paul Mohr, and C. C. Wilson, speakers.

Sept. 19th. At Oakland First. Rev. and Mrs. Julius S. Angus and William Schwimley, speakers.

Sept. 26th. No meeting.

Oct. 3rd. At Pacific School of Religion; Mrs. Helen S. Artieda, speaker.

Religion transfigures a multitude of commonplace existences and takes people out of themselves; nothing else can do.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Safed and Keturah," by William E. Barton, Moderator of the Congregational and National Council. Third series of the Parables of Safed, the Safed, pp. 180. Price \$1.25. The Pilgrim Press, Boston, Mass.

"Paul's Companions" by David James Burrell. 196. Price \$1.25 net. American Tract Society, New York City.

"Talks to Sunday School Teachers" by Luther A. Weigle, Professor of Christian Nurture, Yale University, 188 pages. Third edition. \$1.35 net. Geo. Doran Company, New York City.

"Paul's Letters," by David James Burrell. The book of a series on Paul the Apostle. pp. 166. American Tract Society, New York.

"The Bible in Graded Story," by Edna Dean Baker and Clara Belle Baker. Vol. I.—The Good Shepherd. pp. 83. Illustrated. The Abingdon Press, New York.

"Thomas Starr King: Patriot and Preacher," by Charles W. Wendte. pp. 226. Illustrated. \$3.25 net. The Beacon Press Boston, Mass.

"The Shorter Bible—the Old Testament," translated and arranged by Charles Foster Kent. Professor of Biblical Literature in Yale University. 621 pp. Price \$2.00. Charles Scribners Sons, New York.